Contact: Dan Reeves (916) 319-2045

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

February 4, 2009

Kevin de León Joins Los Angeles City Attorney Rocky Delgadillo and Los Angeles Police Chief Bratton to Demolish Gang Headquarters

LOS ANGELES - Assemblymember Kevin de Leon joined Los Angeles City Attorney Rocky Delgadillo, Los Angeles City Council President Eric Garcetti and Los Angeles Police Chief William Bratton to demolish a gang nuisance from Northeast Los Angeles. The "Satellite House" on Drew Street in Glassell Park, served as the headquarters for the Avenues Gang. After several years of anti gang eradication measures, that included street surveillance and drug raids, Delgadillo's Safe Neighborhoods Division filed a nuisance abatement lawsuit in 2005, securing today's demolition.

Assemblymember De Leon assisted in this effort by co-authoring SB 1126, a bill that granted City Attorneys and District Attorneys the authority to seek damages against gang members under injunction and to collect from them assets acquired from their criminal activity.

"I am pleased to see SB 1126 taking affect. These efforts demonstrate to gangs that violence and crime have no place in our neighborhoods. Make no mistake about it, illegal gang activities will be pursued, arrested and dealt with. Stripping gang members of their homes, cars and material possessions acquired by illegal actions is loud statement that we will no longer tolerate our children and our neighborhoods being terrorized," said Assemblymember De Leon at today's demolition.

Elected officials, Los Angeles Police officers, and community members watched as a symbol of the Avenue Gangs was bulldozed down to a pile of rubble.

"I want to thank Chief Bratton and the members of the Los Angeles Police Department as well as the City Attorney Rocky Delgadillo for working so diligently to remove this blight from the community."

###